



FACTSHEET

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Inside this issue:

LFMA's Workshops	2
CFM Exam	
State Mitigation Planning Key Topics Bulletin: Risk Assessment	3
LFMA's Disaster Relief Team	4-5
NFIP/CRS Corner	6
CRS Recertification	7
Local Trivia	

L273: Managing Floodplain Development through the National Flood Insurance Program

**will be offered October 24-27
in Baton Rouge**

L273 Course: Managing Floodplain Development
through the National Flood Insurance Program
(NFIP) taught by FEMA Region 6 representatives,
John Miles and David Hiegel. The course will be held
over four days and will focus on the NFIP and
concepts of floodplain management, maps and
studies, ordinance, administration, and the
relationship between floodplain management and
flood insurance. It will be eligible for 3.1 CEUs or 12
CECs. Attendance of all four days will be required to
receive CEUs or CECs. The roster will be limited to 25
people, so please email Jenn Rachal at
jennifer.rachal@la.gov for an application and more
information.



On Friday, July 22, 2016, the Louisiana Floodplain Management Association held their summer workshop in Carencro. David Hiegel, FEMA Region 6 Representative, spoke about Substantial Damage/Improvement and the permitting process that must follow. The slideshow and resources are available on LFMA's website at www.lfma.org.

LFMA'S SUMMER WORKSHOP

LFMA'S FALL WORKSHOP

Leo E Kerner, Jr. Multi-Purpose Complex
4917 City Park Drive, Lafitte, LA 70067

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2016

go to www.lfma.org for registration
and information

CFM EXAM

The ASFPM CFM Exam will be offered Friday, October 28, 2016 in Baton Rouge. You must apply to ASFPM at least 2 weeks prior to the test date. Go to ASFPM's website for more information: www.floods.org. For more information about the test site please email Jenn Rachal at jennifer.rachal@la.gov.

State Mitigation Planning Key Topics Bulletin: Risk Assessment

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is announcing the release of the **State Mitigation Planning Key Topics Bulletin: Risk Assessment**, now available in the FEMA library at <http://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/115780>. The **Risk Assessment Bulletin** provides suggestions for identifying and describing hazards, identifying state assets, analyzing risks, and summarizing vulnerability. The **Risk Assessment Bulletin** emphasizes ways that states can address the requirements to include the considerations of future hazard conditions, including the effects of long-term changes in weather patterns and climate on hazards.



The **State Mitigation Planning Key Topics Bulletins (“Bulletins”)** series covers the various components of the state mitigation planning process, including risk assessment, mitigation capabilities, and mitigation strategy. The **Bulletins** are brief documents aimed at informing states, the District of Columbia, and five U.S. Territories on the various ways to meet the regulatory and policy requirements described in the [State Mitigation Plan Review Guide \(“Guide”\)](#), which became effective March 6, 2016. The **Guide** presents FEMA’s official policy on and interpretation of the natural hazard mitigation planning requirements for states established in the Code of Federal Regulations (44 CFR Part 201). The **Bulletins** are not intended to clarify policy, but instead to provide state officials approaches and resources for updating state hazard mitigation plans.

For more information and updates on FEMA’s Hazard Mitigation Planning Program, please visit <http://www.fema.gov/hazard-mitigation-planning-resources>.

DISASTER RESPONSE TEAM

Shandy Heil

LFMA Disaster Response Team (DRT) August Flood Participation

The LFMA DRT began its first post-disaster deployment immediately following the receding waters of the August 2016 flood event. The main mission of the DRT is to aid community officials in times of disaster to expedite FEMA assistance, recovery, and rebuilding. This all-volunteer team, which was officially formed on July 21st, 2016, is comprised of individuals from throughout the state with a background in flood mitigation, building inspections, engineering, GIS, and/or education.

During the first two weeks following the flood, the DRT field assessment team was able to assist the City of Zachary with Substantial Damage Estimate screenings; collect high watermarks (both in X and SFHA zones), and conduct SDE reconnaissance for the City of Denham Springs, the City of Central, and the City of Baker; and conduct parish-wide SDE screening on flooded structures in East Feliciana Parish. Data entry of field records and GIS inundation maps for the City of Central and the City of Baker were completed by remote DRT volunteers. These records were given to FEMA for logistical use when conducting SDEs and to provide a historic map of record inundation for the parish and city. While this data is solely collected for the use by the city or parish, data collaboration has been requested by the USGS, DOTD, and other related entities gathering flood inundation records. Individualized outreach education was administered to homeowners when high water mark record or SDE screenings were underway. The main topics of concern were flood mold prevention, acceptable moisture levels in wood, use of moisture meters, electrical safety, A/C condenser safety, and questions regarding permitting and rebuilding. LSU AgCenter flood recovery publications were also disseminated to the homeowners and city officials through the efforts of the LFMA DRT.

Through on-site technical assistance from FEMA, the LFMA DRT Coordinator was able to learn FEMA's best practice SDE field assessment protocol and gain proficiency for SDE computer software utilization. This effort was initiated to assist communities with limited resources, to provide them with the appropriate training and documents needed to conduct the assessments. The SDE training pilot program has been initiated in E. Feliciana Parish and will serve other communities per FEMA request. FPAs or permit officials that were not affected by the flood, but wish to learn how to conduct SDE assessments or use the software are welcome to train at these locations in need.

This is a great opportunity for communities not yet affected by disaster to understand the necessary steps and actions to move forward after such an event. It is the goal of the LFMA DRT to not only provide assistance to communities after a disaster strikes, but to empower the community beforehand by equipping officials with the tools and education needed to plan for a quicker recovery. The LFMA Disaster Response Team is always recruiting members and hopes to have one volunteer from each parish to better support the mutual aid needed to perform this important work.

The DRT would like to acknowledge and thank Bill Smith, OFMA DRT Coordinator, and the following FEMA personnel for their guidance and assistance: Chad Ross, Angel Cabiya, David Hiegel, Pedro Perez, Wayne Bergeron, Michael Hunnicut, and Shona Gibson. Without the on-site technical assistance from Mr. Ross, and the personal SDE training from Mr. Cabiya, our team would not have been able to accomplish the amount of work we did so quickly or correctly.

The LFMA DRT volunteers who participated in this flood event are as follows: Anthony Governale (Morgan City); Russ Hicks (Clinton); Blake Steiner, Carrie Robinette, Melissa Becker (Rapides Parish); Kara Moree, Craig Rabalais (E. Baton Rouge); Kim Reeves, Vicki Holmes, Miriam Belbidia (Orleans Parish); Maggie Olivier, Michelle Esposito, Erin Merrick (Jefferson Parish); Patrick Furlong (Shreveport); Darla Duet (LaFourche Parish); David Williams, Danielle Young (St. Charles Parish); and Mary Sharp.

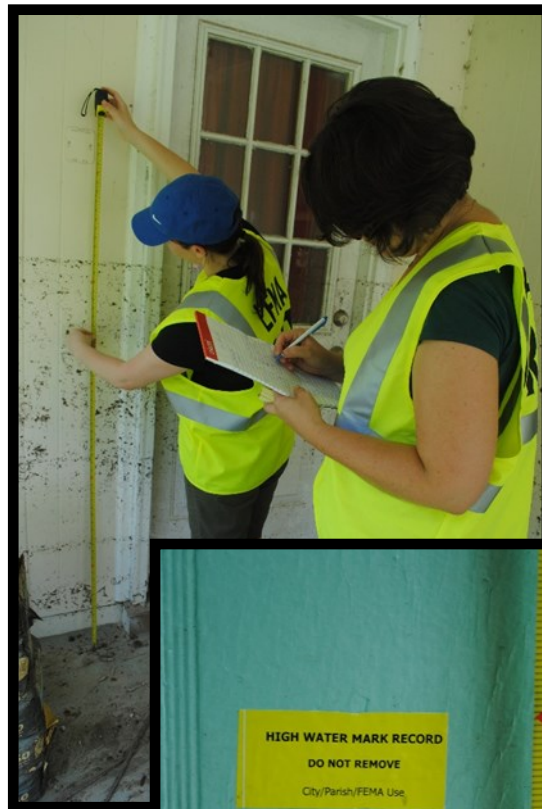
As devastating as this event was, it brought together some of the most hard working and dedicated individuals in this field, who wanted to work together for the common good of helping our neighbors in need.

Shandy Heil

DRT Coordinator

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NFIP/ CRS Corner

CRS Credit for a High Water Mark Initiative

CRS Outreach Projects and Programs for Public Information

Communities that participate in CRS earn credits toward flood insurance premium discounts through a variety of activities including public information programs and projects. One of these is Activity 330 (Outreach Projects), which provides credit points based on the type of project, the audience reached, and the message(s) conveyed. Other public information activities credit providing floodplain map information, disclosing a property's flood status to a potential buyer, putting references in a library, posting information on a website, and providing one-on-one technical advice.

A CRS Program for Public Information (PPI) is an ongoing public information effort designed to transmit the messages that the community determines are most important to its flood safety and the protection of its floodplains' natural functions. It is developed following a seven step process designed to assess the community's public information needs, determine messages and outcomes appropriate for different audiences, and implement the most effective measures. Working with partners is a key factor throughout the process, resulting in greater credit for more involvement of other organizations and agencies.

High Water Marks and CRS Points

One activity that communities are implementing more often is providing information on past floods, such as posting high water marks in public places and maps and photographs of past floods on their websites. These high water mark initiatives and a CRS-credited PPI have a lot in common. To maximize CRS credit for such an initiative, communities are encouraged to use high water marks as a way to generate greater flood risk awareness. For example, a ceremony to unveil flood level signs could be used to announce the formation of a PPI committee or the release of the PPI report.

For more information on CRS credit for public information activities, contact your ISO/CRS Specialist. They are listed at <http://crsresources.org/100-2>. More information on "Know Your Line: Be Flood Aware" can be found at www.fema.gov/knowyourline.

(information provided by the ["CRS Credit for a High Water Mark Initiative" FACT SHEET](#))



CRS High Water Mark Highlights

CRS Recertifications are Coming Up

October is the annual recertification deadline for the Community Rating System. In August, ISO/CRS Specialists send each community a detailed list of the activities for which they are receiving CRS credit. Some communities will have this year's recertification based on the 2007 *Coordinator's Manual*. However, those communities that have been visited recently and verified under the 2013 *Coordinator's Manual* will receive a new set of activity statements as part of their annual recertification. Some of the more common trouble spots for communities are discussed below.

- **Annual Reports** Activities 330, 510, and 610 require an annual report. Your customized recertification form will request a report if you have credit for these activities. For Activity 330, under the 2007 *Coordinator's Manual* we will be looking for a report on your outreach program strategy (OPS). Under the 2013 *Coordinator's Manual*, we will be looking for a report on your Program for Public Information (PPI). Both editions of the *Coordinator's Manual* require an annual progress report if you have credit for Activity 510 FMP, Activity 510 RLAA, or Activity 610.
- **Permit Lists and Elevation Certificates** If your community is now using the 2013 *Coordinator's Manual*, your recertification will ask for a list of building permits and copies of Elevation Certificates for all new construction and substantial improvements in your community since your last CRS visit. Be sure your permit list and copies of the Elevation Certificates match.
- **Outreach Projects** You may be requested to provide copies of outreach projects or the annual publicity completed during the year for Activities 320, 330, 360, 501 (repetitive loss areas), 540, and 610.
- **Reports** If you have credit under Activity 610, you may be asked to provide a report from the local emergency manager about the annual exercise or drill of the emergency response plan, lessons learned from implementing the plan in an emergency or disaster, and the updated list of critical facilities affected by flooding.

One more tip: Unless the statement on the recertification form (AW-214 under the 2007 *Coordinator's Manual* or CC-213 under the 2013 *Coordinator's Manual*) requires you to attach or provide some type of documentation, please do not attach or provide anything. All you need to do is put your initials next to the activity, signifying that your community is still conducting that particular activity.

Also, check out the webinar, "Preparing for the Annual CRS Recertification," which will be held September 7, 2016. See www.CRSresources.org/training for more information.

If you wish to submit your recertification electronically, please feel free to do so via e-mail with attachments or by submitting information on a CD or USB drive. Just make sure the documents are appropriately marked to correspond with the activities.

NFIP/CRS Update: July/August 2016

LOCAL TRIVIA

There are almost half as many alligators as there are people in Louisiana.





Our goal is flood loss reduction . . .

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